

How do I get more information about the PCA Workforce Council?

To learn about the Council and its current activities, visit the Web site at www.mass.gov/masshealth/pcacouncil. The Council meeting schedule is posted on the site. Meetings are open to the public, and all are welcome to attend.

In the near future, the Council will create opportunities for consumers, PCAs, and other interested parties to share comments and suggestions with the Council. You can also send comments to the Council at: PCA Workforce Council, One Ashburton Place, Room 1109, Boston, MA 02108, or e-mail the Council at pcacouncil@state.ma.us.

To request this brochure in an alternate format, please e-mail the Council at pcacouncil@state.ma.us.



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Health and Human Services
PCA Workforce Council

The Personal Care Attendant (PCA)



Quality Home Care Workforce Council



What is the PCA Workforce Council?

The PCA Quality Home Care Workforce Council was created to make it easier for individuals with disabilities to find and hire PCAs under the MassHealth Personal Care Attendant program. The Council was created by state law: Chapter 268 of the Acts of 2006.

Who are the members of the PCA Workforce Council?

A majority of the Council's nine members are PCA consumers. The nine members are: Jean McGuire, Assistant Secretary, Executive Office of Health and Human Services; George Noel, Director of Labor, Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development; and Larry Braman, Joe Bellil, Eileen Brewster, Liz Casey, Patricia Johnston, Paul Spooner, and Joe Tringali. Assistant Secretary McGuire chairs the Council.



What are the PCA Workforce Council's main duties?

The PCA Workforce Council was established to:

- create a PCA registry, or referral directory, that will list people interested in working as PCAs;
- recruit new PCAs to work;
- bargain with the union, if a PCA union is formed, on wages and benefits for PCAs; and
- help inform consumers and PCAs about opportunities for PCAs to receive additional training.

Does the PCA Workforce Council employ PCAs?

No. Consumers remain as employers of PCAs. Consumers continue to have the right to select, hire, schedule, train, direct, supervise, and terminate PCAs. The Council is a designated employer only for the purpose of negotiations with a PCA union, if a union is formed.



What will the process be for a union election?

Later this summer, PCAs will receive information about the union election process. PCAs who provide services to MassHealth consumers will be eligible to vote in the election.

What is included in the PCA registry, and is it available yet?

The PCA registry is not yet available. The Council will be developing the PCA registry, and will let you know when it is available. Consumers will be able to use the registry to search for potential PCAs who might meet their needs. PCAs will be able to use the registry to let consumers know that they are available to work. Consumers will continue to be responsible for hiring and all other employer responsibilities, including interviewing and reference checks.

Will consumers have to use the registry?

No. Consumers will be able to use the PCA registry if they want. Consumers will also be able to continue to recruit and hire PCAs on their own without using the PCA registry.

Will all PCAs who are currently working be included in the PCA registry?

Not necessarily. PCAs will be included in the PCA registry only if they choose to register.